

**TOWN OF UNDERHILL**  
**ENERGY COMMITTEE Minutes - Draft**  
**Underhill Town Hall**  
**6:30 P.M. Wednesday Jan 8, 2020**

**Meeting Called to Order:** 6:36 pm

- **In attendance:** Peter Bennett (PB), Michael Oman (MO), Dwight DeCoster (DD), Steve Webster (SW), Nicole Bourassa (NB)
  - SB is Select Board
- **Recorder:** Nicole Bourassa
- **Note:** Action items in red

**Public comment period:** N/A

**Review/approve minutes from Nov 13, 2019**

- PB moved to approve the minutes, all approved

**Review/approve minutes from Dec 11, 2019**

- PB moved to approve the minutes, all approved

**UEC Annual Report**

Brief discussion about UEC submission to annual report; updated mission statement to current, added “thanks to GA.” Corrected version to be sent.

**Project Updates**

- energy plan input complete

**Action Items from 12/11 Review**

- **Energy Plan:**
  - PB acknowledged work of SW and MO on the energy plan
  - MO suggest we should establish a strategic view of what our committee is doing in relation to this plan
  - Discussion regarding the Energy Dashboard→ **MO will undertake to find more about it**
- **Blower Door/Infrared Camera:**
  - SB doing budget review tomorrow--they asked the question about isn't there anyone else doing this?
  - PB--not for free; and could be a smart marketing path to get people into weatherization.
  - PB suggested we may need to look elsewhere for money.
  - SW said Bob Stone suggested we use income from solar array...but that would be at least 1+year out.
  - **PB to reach out to John Quinney Charlotte Energy Committee regarding possible grant monies we can access**
  - PB still has some concerns about time commitment:
    - SW will commit to 1x/month
    - DD can't make a specific commitment.

- NB suggested we “train” a community member?
- DD shared information about bringing on a “junior” committee member and has been connected to the MMU Environmental Club for option who could potentially fill this role. DD waiting to hear back from President of Environmental Club.
- PB asks DD if we can get an infrared camera with leftover 2019 budget? \$500?
  - DD found one for \$499.
  - PB moves that with more analysis by DD and then email PB and SW with info, that we purchase it. All approved.
  - DD to do deeper review of product and email committee with info
  - PB to talk to Brian and Sherri about how we buy it?
  - SW willing to purchase and get reimbursed.
- **Net-Metering:** PUC is thinking about changing net-meterings regs. Also there is an issue of non-solar utility customers paying more b/c of the “deal” solar customers are getting→ cost shift. PB sent committee GMP and VEC comments to PUC regarding this issue.

### **Plans for 2020**

- Forums
- PB we need to think more about how to promote to get better attendance
- We currently use FB, FPF; SW suggests article in the Gazette
- SW wonders if people just no longer care.
- MO suggests a different time of day.
- NB asks about right messaging. Are we “aggressive” enough?
- PB asks is there something people are really concerned about that we can use? We need to take current politics out of UEC messaging to encourage attendance and take into account what people really care about
  - Comfort!
  - Convenience!
  - Time!
- DD shares from his experience that what drives people more to weatherization is comfort...!

### **Need to decide what we want to focus on for 2020:**

- **Promotion** of:
  - solar
  - weatherization
  - website
  - electric/hybrid vehicles
  - charging stations
  - PB asks should we look at small wind?

### **Committee operations**

- committee membership
- next meeting – Feb 12, 2020

**8:07 PB moves to adjourn, all in favor.**